

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroyuki SHIMIZU et al.  
Appl. No.: 09/530,013                      Group: Unknown  
Filed: April 24, 2000                      Examiner: Unknown  
For: METHOD FOR INHIBITING DEGRADATION OF  
NATRIURETIC PEPTIDES AND IMPROVED METHOD  
FOR MEASURING NATRIURETIC PEPTIDES WITH  
THE USE OF THE SAME

L E T T E R

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

July 11, 2000

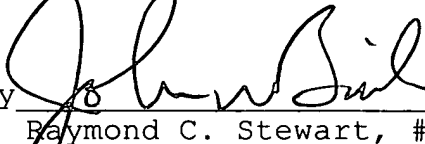
Sir:

Subsequent to the filing of the above-identified application on April 24, 2000, attached hereto is an English translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPEA 409) which should be made of record in the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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